

VARIANCE APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS (ASME Standard Vessels)

The following documentation is required in order to petition the Indiana Boiler and Pressure Vessel Rules Board for a variance in cases where regulated vessels were originally stamped and certified in accordance with the ASME code [ASME Standard], but currently do not comply with one or more provisions of a code, standard or rule that is adopted by the Rules Board;

1. An application must be submitted that consists of a letter from the owner or user of the vessel (or their designated agent), requesting that a variance be granted from a specific requirement of the applicable code, standard or rule.
 - a. The name and address of the applicant and the name and address of the person submitting the application, if it is not the applicant.
 - b. When the application is submitted on the applicants behalf, a signed statement by the applicant that the applicant is aware of the variance request and that it is made on the applicants behalf.
 - c. Identification (by specific citation) of the rule(s), code or standard adopted by the rules board from which the applicant requests variance.
 - d. Two (2) of the following:
 - e. a specific description of the undue hardship that compliance with the rule will impose on the applicant, and either;
 - f. a statement that noncompliance with the rule will not be adverse to the public health, safety or welfare and a specific explanation as to why that is so, or
 - g. alternative action(s) that the applicant will undertake in lieu of compliance with the rule to ensure that the granting of the variance will not be adverse to the public health, safety or welfare and a specific explanation as to why it or they would be adequate.
2. Detailed drawings (where required) that will enable the rules board to determine the acceptability of the proposal submitted by the applicant.
3. In the case of vessels in prior service, documentation verifying the results of ultrasonic or other thickness testing that is sufficiently comprehensive to establish current representative thicknesses of the components and materials of which the vessel and nozzles are fabricated.
4. Engineering calculations (where required) made in accordance with the applicable edition of the ASME code that are certified by a professional engineer licensed in Indiana.
5. Any information that the applicant believes may be helpful to the rules board in evaluating the variance request, such as photographs.
6. A signed statement by the person submitting the application, or the applicant, that the information contained in the application is accurate.
7. Any request for variance shall be accompanied by a check made payable to the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Rules Board in the amount of two hundred dollars (\$200). If an in-depth evaluation of the engineering data by the Rules Board is necessary, an additional fee of five hundred dollars (\$500) is applicable. (REF: {675 IAC 12-3-13 (h)})

Four (4) sets of all information required as noted above shall be submitted by the applicant prior to the 10th day of the month proceeding the month of the next regularly scheduled meeting of the Rules Board. Regular meetings of the Rules Board are generally set for the first Wednesday of the months of March, June, September and December.

Please see the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Safety Section web links for specific dates, times and locations.

Note: It is useful, even desirable in this day and age, to receive this information in an electronic format. When submitted in electronic format, it is much easier to disseminate the information to the Boiler and Pressure Vessel Rules Board, and when submitted electronically, multiple copies do not need to be submitted.

The application package, consisting of the items noted above, shall be submitted to;

Boiler and Pressure Vessel Safety Section
Division of Fire and Building Safety
Indiana Department of Homeland Security
Indiana Government Center South, Room E 241

302 West Washington Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204-2739
Tel: 317.232.2222 Fax 317.232.0146

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